



## **Press Release**

Public Affairs Section

United States Embassy - February 13, 2012

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## **STATEMENT**

The U.S. Embassy in Lima notes with satisfaction the capture by Peruvian security forces of the Shining Path (Sendero Luminoso, or SL) leader Florindo Eleuterio Flores Hala, AKA “Artemio.” This represents an important victory for Peru in its fight to end the terrorist campaign SL has waged on innocent Peruvians for more than three decades. The United States firmly supports the efforts of the Peruvian people, the government of President Humala, and the Peruvian National Police and Armed Forces to defeat SL, which the United States designates as a foreign terrorist organization. The capture of “Artemio” brings Peru one step closer to closing a violent and painful chapter in its history and securing a bright future rooted in security, democracy and opportunity for all of its citizens.

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